

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. For use in a video display system capable of displaying a
2 video program, a system for accessing a multimedia summary of said
3 video program to display at least one portion of said video
4 program, said system comprising:

5 a multimedia summary generator capable of displaying
6 information from said multimedia summary on a display page that
7 identifies at least one topic of said video program and at least
8 one entry point that corresponds to said at least one topic of said
9 video program,

10 wherein said multimedia summary generator is capable of
11 displaying a portion of said video program that corresponds to said
12 at least one topic of said video program in response to a selection
13 by a viewer of said entry point that corresponds to said at least
14 one topic of said video program.

1 2. The system as claimed in Claim 1 capable of displaying
2 information from said multimedia summary on a display page that
3 identifies at least one subtopic of said at least one topic of said
4 video program and at least one entry point that corresponds to said
5 at least one subtopic of said at least one topic of said video
6 program,

7 wherein said multimedia summary generator is capable of
8 displaying a portion of said video program that corresponds to said
9 subtopic of said at least one topic of said video program in
10 response to a selection by a viewer of said entry point that
11 corresponds to said subtopic of said at least one topic of said
12 video program.

1 3. The system as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said multimedia
2 summary generator is capable of displaying information from said
3 multimedia summary on a display page that identifies a plurality of
4 topics of said video program, and a plurality of subtopics of said
5 video program, and an entry point for each of said plurality of
6 topics and for each of said plurality of subtopics,

7 wherein said multimedia summary generator is capable of
8 displaying a portion of said video program that corresponds to a
9 topic of said video program in response to a selection by a viewer
10 of an entry point that corresponds to said topic of said video
11 program, and

12 wherein said multimedia summary generator is capable of
13 displaying a portion of said video program that corresponds to a
14 subtopic of said video program in response to a selection by a
15 viewer of an entry point that corresponds to said subtopic of said
16 video program.

1 4. For use in a video display system capable of displaying a
2 video program, a system for accessing a multimedia summary of said
3 video program to display at least one portion of said video
4 program, said system comprising:

5 a speaker visualization display unit capable of displaying
6 information from said multimedia summary on a speaker visualization
7 page that identifies at least one category of audio-visual segment
8 in said video program and a time when said at least one category of
9 audio-visual segment is occurring during said video program,

10 wherein said speaker visualization display unit is capable of
11 displaying said at least one portion of said video program in
12 response to a selection by a viewer of said time when said at least
13 one category of audio-visual segment is occurring during said video
14 program.

1 5. The system as claimed in Claim 4 wherein said at least
2 one category of audio-visual segment comprises one of:

3 a person who is speaking, a commercial message, a person whose
4 face is displayed, a topic, a subtopic, and an element of a
5 transcript of said video program.

1 6. The system as claimed in Claim 4 wherein said speaker
2 visualization display unit comprises:

3 a controller capable of executing computer software
4 instructions contained with a memory coupled to said controller
5 capable of displaying said speaker visualization page, and capable
6 of receiving a selection from a viewer identifying a time when said
7 at least one category of audio-visual segment is occurring during
8 said video program, and in response to receiving said viewer
9 selection, capable of displaying said at least one portion of said
10 video program showing said at least one category of audio-visual
11 segment.

1 7. The system as claimed in Claim 4 wherein said speaker
2 visualization display unit is capable of displaying information
3 from said multimedia summary on a speaker visualization page that
4 identifies each speaker in said video program, and a plurality of
5 time segments that show when each speaker in said video program is
6 speaking,

7 wherein said speaker visualization display unit is capable of
8 receiving a selection by a viewer of a time segment, and, in
9 response to receiving said viewer selection, capable of displaying
10 a portion of said video program that shows the speaker who is
11 speaking during the selected time segment.

1 8. The system as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said multimedia
2 summary generator is capable of recording at least one topic
3 selected by said viewer, and is capable of locating additional
4 information that is related to said at least one topic, and is
5 capable of notifying the viewer of said additional information.

1 9. A video display system capable of displaying a video
2 program and capable of accessing a multimedia summary of said video
3 program to display at least one portion of said video program, said
4 video display system comprising:

5 a multimedia summary generator capable of displaying
6 information from said multimedia summary on a display page that
7 identifies at least one topic of said video program and at least
8 one entry point that corresponds to said at least one topic of said
9 video program,

10 wherein said multimedia summary generator is capable of
11 displaying a portion of said video program that corresponds to said
12 at least one topic of said video program in response to a selection
13 by a viewer of said entry point that corresponds to said at least
14 one topic of said video program.

1 10. The video display system as claimed in Claim 9 wherein
2 said multimedia summary generator is capable of displaying
3 information from said multimedia summary on a display page that
4 identifies at least one subtopic of said at least one topic of said
5 video program and at least one entry point that corresponds to said
6 at least one subtopic of said at least one topic of said video
7 program,

8 wherein said multimedia summary generator is capable of
9 displaying a portion of said video program that corresponds to said
10 subtopic of said at least one topic of said video program in
11 response to a selection by a viewer of said entry point that
12 corresponds to said subtopic of said at least one topic of said
13 video program.

11. The video display system as claimed in Claim 9 wherein said multimedia summary generator is capable of displaying information from said multimedia summary on a display page that identifies a plurality of topics of said video program, and a plurality of subtopics of said video program, and an entry point for each of said plurality of topics and for each of said plurality of subtopics,

wherein said multimedia summary generator is capable of displaying a portion of said video program that corresponds to a topic of said video program in response to a selection by a viewer of an entry point that corresponds to said topic of said video program, and

wherein said multimedia summary generator is capable of displaying a portion of said video program that corresponds to a subtopic of said video program in response to a selection by a viewer of an entry point that corresponds to said subtopic of said video program.

12. A video display system capable of displaying a video program and capable of accessing a multimedia summary of said video program to display at least one portion of said video program, said video display system comprising:

a speaker visualization display unit capable of displaying information from said multimedia summary on a speaker visualization page that identifies at least one category of audio-visual segment in said video program and a time when said at least one category of audio-visual segment is occurring during said video program,

wherein said speaker visualization display unit is capable of displaying said at least one portion of said video program in response to a selection by a viewer of said time when said at least one category of audio-visual segment is occurring during said video program.

1 13. The video display system as claimed in Claim 12 wherein
2 said at least one category of audio-visual segment comprises one
3 of:

4 a person who is speaking, a commercial message, a person whose
5 face is displayed, a topic, a subtopic, and an element of a
6 transcript of said video program.

1 14. The video display system as claimed in Claim 12 wherein
2 said speaker visualization display unit comprises:

3 a controller capable of executing computer software
4 instructions contained with a memory coupled to said controller
5 capable of displaying said speaker visualization page, and capable
6 of receiving a selection from a viewer identifying a time when said
7 at least one category of audio-visual segment is occurring during
8 said video program, and in response to receiving said viewer
9 selection, capable of displaying said at least one portion of said
10 video program showing said at least one category of audio-visual
11 segment.

1 15. The video display system as claimed in Claim 12 wherein
2 said speaker visualization display unit is capable of displaying
3 information from said multimedia summary on a speaker visualization
4 page that identifies each speaker in said video program, and a
5 plurality of time segments that show when each speaker in said
6 video program is speaking,

7 wherein said speaker visualization display unit is capable of
8 receiving a selection by a viewer of a time segment, and, in
9 response to receiving said viewer selection, capable of displaying
10 a portion of said video program that shows the speaker who is
11 speaking during the selected time segment.

1 16. The video display system as claimed in Claim 9 wherein
2 said multimedia summary generator is capable of recording at least
3 one topic selected by said viewer, and is capable of locating
4 additional information that is related to said at least one topic,
5 and is capable of notifying the viewer of said additional
6 information.

1 17. For use in a video display system capable of displaying a
2 video program, a method for accessing a multimedia summary of said
3 video program to display at least one portion of said video
4 program, said method comprising the steps of:

5 displaying information from said multimedia summary on a
6 display page that identifies at least one topic of said video
7 program;

8 displaying on said display page at least one entry point that
9 corresponds to said at least one topic of said video program;

10 receiving a selection by a viewer of said entry point that
11 corresponds to said at least one topic of said video program; and

12 displaying a portion of said video program that corresponds to
13 said at least one topic of said video program.

1 18. The method as claimed in Claim 17 further comprising the
2 steps of:

3 displaying information from said multimedia summary on a
4 display page that identifies at least one subtopic of said at least
5 one topic of said video program;

6 displaying on said display page at least one entry point that
7 corresponds to said at least one subtopic of said at least one
8 topic of said video program;

9 receiving a selection by a viewer of said entry point that
10 corresponds to said at least one subtopic of said at least one
11 topic of said video program; and

12 displaying a portion of said video program that corresponds to
13 said at least one subtopic of said at least one topic of said video
14 program.

19. The method as claimed in Claim 17 further comprising the steps of:

displaying information from said multimedia summary on a display page that identifies a plurality of topics of said video program, and a plurality of subtopics of said video program, and an entry point for each of said plurality of topics and for each of said plurality of subtopics;

displaying a portion of said video program that corresponds to a topic of said video program in response to a selection by a viewer of an entry point that corresponds to said topic of said video program; and

displaying a portion of said video program that corresponds to a subtopic of said video program in response to a selection by a viewer of an entry point that corresponds to said subtopic of said video program.

20. For use in a video display system capable of displaying a video program, a method for accessing a multimedia summary of said video program to display at least one portion of said video program, said method comprising the steps of:

displaying information from said multimedia summary on a speaker visualization page that identifies at least one category of audio-visual segment in said video program and a time when said at least one category of audio-visual segment is occurring during said video program; and

receiving a selection by a viewer of said time when said at least one category of audio-visual segment is occurring during said video program; and

displaying a portion of said video program that shows said at least one category of audio-visual segment in said video program selected by said viewer.

21. The method as claimed in Claim 20 wherein said at least one category of audio-visual segment comprises one of:

a person who is speaking, a commercial message, a person whose face is displayed, a topic, a subtopic, and an element of a transcript of said video program.

1 22. The method as claimed in Claim 20 further comprising the
2 steps of:

3 receiving in a controller instructions from computer software
4 stored in a memory coupled to said controller;

5 executing said instructions in said controller to display said
6 speaker visualization page;

7 executing said instructions in said controller to receive a
8 selection from a viewer identifying a time when said at least one
9 category of audio-visual segment is occurring during said video
10 program; and

11 executing said instructions in said controller in response to
12 receiving said viewer selection to display said at least one
13 portion of said video program showing said at least one category of
14 audio-visual segment.

1 23. The method as claimed in Claim 20 further comprising the
2 steps of:

3 displaying information from said multimedia summary on a
4 speaker visualization page that identifies each speaker in said
5 video program, and a plurality of time segments that show when each
6 speaker in said video program is speaking;

7 receiving a selection by a viewer of a time segment; and

8 in response to receiving said viewer selection, displaying a
9 portion of said video program that shows the speaker who is
10 speaking during the selected time segment.

1 24. The method as claimed in Claim 17 further comprising the
2 steps of:

3 recording at least one topic selected by said viewer;

4 locating additional information that is related to said at
5 least one topic; and

6 notifying the viewer of said additional information.

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1 25. For use in a video display system capable of displaying a
2 video program, computer-executable instructions stored on a
3 computer-readable storage medium for accessing a multimedia summary
4 of said video program to display at least one portion of said video
5 program, the computer-executable instructions comprising the steps
6 of:

7 displaying information from said multimedia summary on a
8 display page that identifies at least one topic of said video
9 program;

10 displaying on said display page at least one entry point that
11 corresponds to said at least one topic of said video program;

12 receiving a selection by a viewer of said entry point that
13 corresponds to said at least one topic of said video program; and

14 displaying a portion of said video program that corresponds to
15 said at least one topic of said video program.

1 26. The computer-executable instructions stored on a
2 computer-readable storage medium as claimed in Claim 25 further
3 comprising the steps of:

4 displaying information from said multimedia summary on a
5 display page that identifies at least one subtopic of said at least
6 one topic of said video program;

7 displaying on said display page at least one entry point that
8 corresponds to said at least one subtopic of said at least one
9 topic of said video program;

10 receiving a selection by a viewer of said entry point that
11 corresponds to said at least one subtopic of said at least one
12 topic of said video program; and

13 displaying a portion of said video program that corresponds to
14 said at least one subtopic of said at least one topic of said video
15 program.

1 27. The computer-executable instructions stored on a
2 computer-readable storage medium as claimed in Claim 25 further
3 comprising the steps of:

4 displaying information from said multimedia summary on a
5 display page that identifies a plurality of topics of said video
6 program, and a plurality of subtopics of said video program, and an
7 entry point for each of said plurality of topics and for each of
8 said plurality of subtopics;

9 displaying a portion of said video program that corresponds to
10 a topic of said video program in response to a selection by a
11 viewer of an entry point that corresponds to said topic of said
12 video program; and

13 displaying a portion of said video program that corresponds to
14 a subtopic of said video program in response to a selection by a
15 viewer of an entry point that corresponds to said subtopic of said
16 video program.

1 28. For use in a video display system capable of displaying a
2 video program, computer-executable instructions stored on a
3 computer-readable storage medium for accessing a multimedia summary
4 of said video program to display at least one portion of said video
5 program, the computer-executable instructions comprising the steps
6 of:

7 displaying information from said multimedia summary on a
8 speaker visualization page that identifies at least one category of
9 audio-visual segment in said video program and a time when said at
10 least one category of audio-visual segment is occurring during said
11 video program; and

12 receiving a selection by a viewer of said time when said at
13 least one category of audio-visual segment is occurring during said
14 video program; and

15 displaying a portion of said video program that shows said at
16 least one category of audio-visual segment in said video program
17 selected by said viewer.

1 29. The computer-executable instructions stored on a
2 computer-readable storage medium as claimed in Claim 28 wherein
3 said at least one category of audio-visual segment comprises one
4 of:

5 a person who is speaking, a commercial message, a person whose
6 face is displayed, a topic, a subtopic, and an element of a
7 transcript of said video program.

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1 30. The computer-executable instructions stored on a
2 computer-readable storage medium as claimed in Claim 28 further
3 comprising the steps of:

4 receiving in a controller instructions from computer software
5 stored in a memory coupled to said controller;

6 executing said instructions in said controller to display said
7 speaker visualization page;

8 executing said instructions in said controller to receive a
9 selection from a viewer identifying a time when said at least one
10 category of audio-visual segment is occurring during said video
11 program; and

12 executing said instructions in said controller in response to
13 receiving said viewer selection to display said at least one
14 portion of said video program showing said at least one category of
15 audio-visual segment.

1 31. The computer-executable instructions stored on a
2 computer-readable storage medium as claimed in Claim 28 further
3 comprising the steps of:

4 displaying information from said multimedia summary on a
5 speaker visualization page that identifies each speaker in said
6 video program, and a plurality of time segments that show when each
7 speaker in said video program is speaking;

8 receiving a selection by a viewer of a time segment; and

9 in response to receiving said viewer selection, displaying a
10 portion of said video program that shows the speaker who is
11 speaking during the selected time segment.

1 32. The computer-executable instructions stored on a
2 computer-readable storage medium as claimed in Claim 25 further
3 comprising the steps of:

4 recording at least one topic selected by said viewer;

5 locating additional information that is related to said at
6 least one topic; and

7 notifying the viewer of said additional information.

1 33. The method as claimed in Claim 20, said method further
2 comprising the step of:

3 displaying information from said multimedia summary on a
4 speaker visualization page that displays at least two types of
5 information in a two dimensional format.

1 34. The method as claimed in Claim 20, said method further
2 comprising the step of:

3 displaying information from said multimedia summary on a
4 speaker visualization page that displays at least three types of
5 information in a three dimensional format.

1 35. The method as claimed in Claim 20, said method further
2 comprising the step of:

3 displaying information from said multimedia summary on at
4 least two speaker visualization pages that display at least four
5 types of information.